



DUMFRIES, VIRGINIA

Virginia's Oldest Continuously Chartered Town

CHARTERED 1749 INCORPORATED 1961

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Cydney Neville, Director of Community Services

DATE: September 24, 2013

RE: Monthly Department of Community Services Update

Priorities:

- Dumfries Cares
- Christmas-Holiday Parade
- Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth Grant

Dumfries Cares

The *Dumfries Cares* program just started running it's FY14 after school programming this week! The program is offered on Mondays (Middle School), Wednesday (Elementary), and Thursday (High School). Programming is FREE of charge and provides group mentoring, prevention, and after school help.

We are currently looking to fill the Program Coordinator vacancy, and will be offering the STEP Parenting Program in November.

The Director of Community Services is diligently working to complete the final report for FY13, and working with DCJS to finalize the Town's final fiscal year of funding for the Dumfries Cares programming which will end on December 31, 2014. It is imperative that the Town look into other sources of funding to sustain program offerings beyond that date; rather it be through obtaining 501(c)3 status for the mentoring program to include and expand other community outreach such as ESOL classes, and Senior program offerings.

Fall Festival

The Fall Festival was a HUGE success! We had a wide variety of vendors participate in this year's event, the Talent Competition was amazing, the concert was great, and the Movie on the Lawn event was fun! Most important of all, the people came out and enjoyed themselves, and supported the Town event from the beginning (11:00am), and braved the cool weather through the end of "Wreck It Ralph" (around 10:30pm)!

All are encouraged to visit the Town's facebook page for pictures from the event.

Extending a magnitude of gratitude to our volunteers/judges, Hilldrup, vendors, Events Committee, talent competitors, Pillar Church, and the community for making it possible!

“39th Annual Christmas-Holiday Parade”

The Christmas-Holiday Parade will be held on December 14th, 2013, at noon! A Save the Date flyer has been distributed throughout the area, and will be expanded to local media outlets. Registration information is coming.

Requests for Marching Bands from Quantico and the Army Old Fife and Drum Corps have been submitted.

Community groups are encouraged to register to participate in what is sure to be the best Christmas-Holiday in Virginia!

Grants

- Dumfries Cares/DCJS
- Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth-VFHY Healthy Community Action Teams (HCAT) for Childhood Obesity Prevention Grant. The Director of Community Services attended a meeting regarding this grant, on September 16th, and will be seeking funding for a program that will prevent childhood obesity and develop a HCAT in the Town. If funded, the following objectives will be addressed:

- **Community Access**

Promote efforts to provide fruits and vegetable in a variety of settings, such as farmers’ markets, farm stands, mobile markets, community gardens, and youth-focused gardens.

Local Government Policies

Implement local ordinance to discourage the consumption of calorie-dense, nutrient-poor foods and beverages.

Programs for Walking and Biking

Promote programs that support walking and bicycling for transportation and recreation.

Physical Activity

Promote youth athletic leagues and increase access to fields, with special emphasis on income and gender equity.

*If funded, this program will compliment the Dumfries Cares program, expand our Farmer’s Market, and will fund a part-time Program Coordinator position that will:

- Coordinate Parks & Recreation Initiative
- Develop Community Partnerships with local youth sports associations
- Coordinate/plan an annual Town “Dumfries Pride” 5k

- Coordinate/plan Summer Basketball Tournament (Boys and Girls)
- Coordinate/plan an annual (fall, Image Church?) Town Help the Homeless walk through Fannie Mae
- Coordinate/plan annual “Bike to Work” day, and/or Walking safety program for youth
- Serve as Town Liaison/Advisor to PWC Parks & Rec, will attend Commission Meetings.
- Coordinate vendors for the Town’s Farmer’s Market, and implementation of the EBT program, and health/fitness activities at the Market.
- Serve as a point of communication with Healthy Community Action Teams.
 - Constant communication via email and phone
 - Bi-Annual face-to-face meeting
- Work with Master Gardener and ACTs to implement Community Garden at the Ginn.
 - Work with ACTS and youth in community (Implement an Agricultural based 4-H club). Produce will be donated to ACTS
- Administrative duties as necessary.
- Will report to the Director of Community Services.

****Please note that the deadline for this application is October 15th, with notifications in early December-thus making it a top priority for the Director of Community Services at this time. Should we receive funding (up to \$70k (combined) for FY15& FY16).**

ON-GOING ITEMS:

Senior Luncheon

The September Luncheon was a success and included presentations from the Project Mend-A-House, and the NCOA/Senior Community Service Employment Program. Thank you to the IT Manager for leading this luncheon!

The October luncheon will serve as the senior’s annual Halloween luncheon, and will be held on October 18th from 1pm-2:30pm! Roughly 20 seniors participated in the September luncheon.

English as a Second Language

The Town’s FREE ESOL classes are offered on Tuesdays from 10am-noon, in the Community Center! During these classes, 7-13 participants are educated weekly, through this program.

Community Partnerships

- Literacy Volunteers of America-Prince William County-ESL classes (<https://sites.google.com/site/litvolpw/>)
- Sonia Hoehn-ESL Instructor.
- Pillar Church-Movies on the Lawn, volunteers. (<http://www.pillardumfries.com/>)
- Virginia Credit Union